

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MARYLAND
SOUTHERN DIVISION**

Kevin Brown,

Plaintiff,

v.

Weinstock, Friedman, and Friedman, P.A.; and
DOES 1-10, inclusive,

Defendants.

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: Civil Action No.: 8:11-cv-00146-RWT
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: **FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT**
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For this Complaint, the Plaintiff, Kevin Brown, by undersigned counsel, states as follows:

JURISDICTION

1. This action arises out of Defendants' repeated violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seq. ("FDCPA"), and the invasions of Plaintiff's personal privacy by the Defendants and their agents in their illegal efforts to collect a consumer debt.

2. Supplemental jurisdiction exists pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.

3. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), in that the Defendants transact business in this District and a substantial portion of the acts giving rise to this action occurred in this District.

PARTIES

4. The Plaintiff, Kevin Brown ("Plaintiff"), is an adult individual residing in Bowie, Maryland, and is a "consumer" as the term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).

5. Defendant, Weinstock, Friedman, and Friedman, P.A. (“WFF”), is a Maryland business entity with an address of 4 Reservoir Circle, 2nd Floor, Baltimore, MD 21208, operating as a collection agency, and is a “debt collector” as the term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

6. Does 1-10 (the “Collectors”) are individual collectors employed by WFF and whose identities are currently unknown to the Plaintiff. One or more of the Collectors may be joined as parties once their identities are disclosed through discovery.

7. WFF at all times acted by and through one or more of the Collectors.

ALLEGATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL COUNTS

A. The Debt

8. The Plaintiff allegedly incurred a financial obligation (the “Debt”) to an original creditor (the “Creditor”).

9. The Debt arose from services provided by the Creditor which were primarily for family, personal or household purposes and which meets the definition of a “debt” under 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).

10. The Debt was purchased, assigned or transferred to WFF for collection, or WFF was employed by the Creditor to collect the Debt.

11. The Defendants attempted to collect the Debt and, as such, engaged in “communications” as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(2).

B. WFF Engages in Harassment and Abusive Tactics

12. Plaintiff sent a letter to WFF on October 7, 2010, requesting that WFF provide verification of the Debt.

13. WFF sent a letter to Plaintiff on October 25, 2010, requesting payment of the Debt. At the time, WFF had not responded to Plaintiff's request for verification of the Debt.

14. WFF sent a letter to Plaintiff on October 29, 2010, in which they failed to properly and fully verify the Debt.

15. Plaintiff sent another letter to WFF on November 9, 2010, requesting that they comply with Plaintiff's verification requests.

16. WFF failed to properly verify in response to Plaintiff's November 9, 2010 letter.

17. WFF has taken legal action against Plaintiff in an attempt to collect the Debt, despite not having properly verified the Debt.

C. Plaintiff Suffered Actual Damages

18. The Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer actual damages as a result of the Defendants' unlawful conduct.

19. As a direct consequence of the Defendants' acts, practices and conduct, the Plaintiff suffered and continues to suffer from humiliation, anger, fear, frustration and embarrassment.

20. The Defendants' conduct was so outrageous in character, and so extreme in degree, as to go beyond all possible bounds of decency, and to be regarded as atrocious, and utterly intolerable in a civilized community.

COUNT I
VIOLATIONS OF THE FDCPA 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seq.

21. The Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.

22. The Defendants' conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(10) in that Defendants

employed false and deceptive means to collect a debt.

23. The Defendants' conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(b) in that Defendants continued collection efforts even though the Debt had not been verified.

24. The foregoing acts and omissions of the Defendant constitute numerous and multiple violations of the FDCPA, including every one of the above-cited provisions.

25. The Plaintiff is entitled to damages as a result of Defendant's violations.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff prays that judgment be entered against the Defendants:

1. Actual damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(1) against the Defendants;
2. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00 pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(2)(A) against the Defendants;
3. Costs of litigation and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(3) against the Defendants;
4. Actual damages from the Defendants for the all damages suffered as a result of the intentional, reckless, and/or negligent FDCPA violations and intentional, reckless, and/or negligent invasions of privacy in an amount to be determined at trial for the Plaintiff; and
5. Such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

TRIAL BY JURY DEMANDED ON ALL COUNTS

Dated: January 25, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

By /s/ Forrest E. Mays

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